



US Army Corps
of Engineers
New York District
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building
New York, N.Y. 10278-0090
ATTN: Regulatory Branch

PUBLIC NOTICE

In replying refer to:

Public Notice Number: 2004-00251-YN

Issue Date: November 30, 2004

Expiration Date: December 30, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

The New York District, Corps of Engineers has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

APPLICANT: Town of Wells
P.O. Box 205
Wells, NY 12190-0205

ACTIVITY: Dredge with upland disposal and return flow

WATERWAY: Lake Algonquin, Sacandaga River - Hudson River Basin

LOCATION: Town of Wells, Hamilton County, New York.

A detailed description and plans of the applicant's activity are enclosed to assist in your review.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historical properties, fish and wildlife values, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership and, in general the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

ALL COMMENTS REGARDING THE PERMIT APPLICATION MUST BE PREPARED IN WRITING AND MAILED TO REACH THIS OFFICE BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THIS NOTICE, otherwise, it will be presumed that there are no objections to the activity.

Any person may request, in writing, before this public notice expires, that a public hearing be held to collect information necessary to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with

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PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 2004-00251-YN

particularity, the reasons why a public hearing should be held. It should be noted that information submitted by mail is considered just as carefully in the permit decision process and bears the same weight as that furnished at a public hearing.

Our preliminary determination is that the activity for which authorization is sought herein is not likely to affect any Federally endangered or threatened species or their critical habitat. However, pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531), the District Engineer is consulting with the appropriate Federal agency to determine the presence of and potential impacts to listed species in the project area or their critical habitat.

Based upon a review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, there are no known sites eligible for, or included in, the Register within the permit area. Presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical data may be lost by work accomplished under the required permit.

Based upon a review of the National Rivers Inventory of the National Park Service, the Sacandaga River is designated for further study for its potential for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System due to its scenic, recreational, fish, and historical values. It is the preliminary determination by this office that the proposed project will not adversely affect the potential for inclusion of this section of the Sacandaga River in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Further review of the project will be coordinated with the National Park Service.

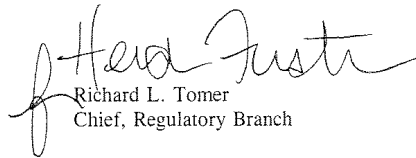
Reviews of activities pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404 (b) of the Clean Water Act and the applicant will obtain a water quality certificate or waiver from the appropriate state agency in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act prior to a permit decision.

In addition to any required water quality certificate and coastal zone management program concurrence, the applicant has obtained or requested the following governmental authorization for the activity under consideration:

- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Article 15
- Adirondack Park Agency

It is requested that you communicate the foregoing information concerning the activity to any persons known by you to be interested and who did not receive a copy of this notice. If you have any questions concerning this application, you may contact this office at (518) 273-7420 and ask for John Connell.

For more information on New York District Corps of Engineers programs, visit our website at <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil>


Richard L. Tomer
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Enclosures

WORK DESCRIPTION

The applicant, Town of Wells, has requested Department of the Army authorization to dredge with upland disposal to improve water quality, navigation and the recreational use of Lake Algonquin, on the Sacandaga River, in the Town of Wells, Hamilton County, New York.

The work would involve dredging approximately 143,000 cubic yards of sediment from eight separate locations on the 275 acre lake, totaling 42 acres in combined area. The majority of dredging would be accomplished by use of a barge mounted, cutter-head hydraulic dredge with piping and booster pumps used to convey the dredged sediment in a 10 to 20% slurry from the barge to four separate dewatering/disposal basins located in uplands. The basins have a combined capacity of 345,000 cubic yards of material. Suspended solids in the dredged material would be allowed to settle in the dewatering basins. After settling, return flow would be discharged into the lake by use of piping and temporary drainage swales with stone filter dikes, specialized flocculating devices, and silt curtains to minimize turbidity. Some mechanical dredging may be used to remove materials near the mouth of Elbow Creek. Materials to be dredged south of the State Route 30 bridge consist of predominately sand or silt while materials proposed for dredging north of the bridge consist of mostly gravel or cobble. Silt curtains would be installed and maintained around each dredge area to minimize turbidity.

Thirty three of the 42 acres proposed for dredging consist of emergent wetland and aquatic beds with rooted and/or floating vegetation. Dredging in wetlands is proposed to result in water depths of less than 6.5 feet and not lower the lake bottom elevation below 980 feet above mean sea level to provide for the reestablishment of wetlands. In Area A-4C, dredging is proposed to establish a 10-foot depth.

Eurasian watermilfoil is found scattered throughout the lake and in dense and moderately dense beds. Dredging in these stands will not occur after June 1 to prevent plant fragmentation and colonization of other sites. In addition, silt curtains will be used to contain plant fragments during dredging.

The lake supports a warm water fishery with much of the lake's littoral zone providing spawning and nursery habitat for small and largemouth bass, chain pickerel and other species. Dredging in areas designated as "high quality" spawning and nursery beds would be avoided between June 1 and August 1. Additionally, dredging will not be performed within a distance of 50 feet from the shoreline in Areas 5 and 6.

The project is planned to commence in April 2005 and to be completed by August of 2008. The applicant is planning a second phase of dredging after the initial dredging is completed. Approximately 142,000 cubic yards of material are proposed for removal during phase 2. However, due to the need for detailed bathymetric survey data to identify optimal areas for dredging, phase 2 dredging would be reviewed under a separate application. The applicant has prepared a Watershed Management Plan to support on-going efforts by landowners and local, state and Federal agencies to reduce the overall future sediment loading of the lake.

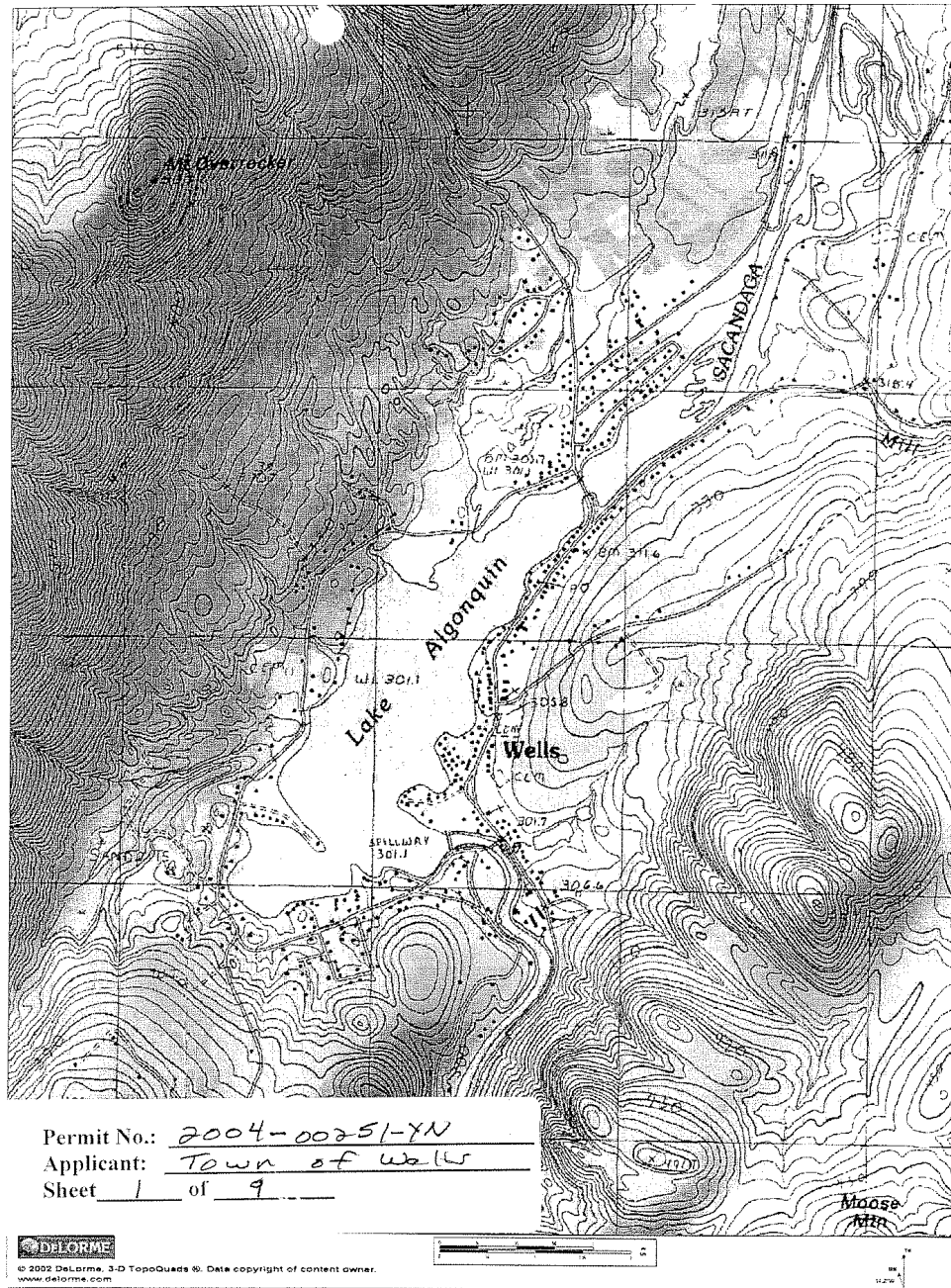
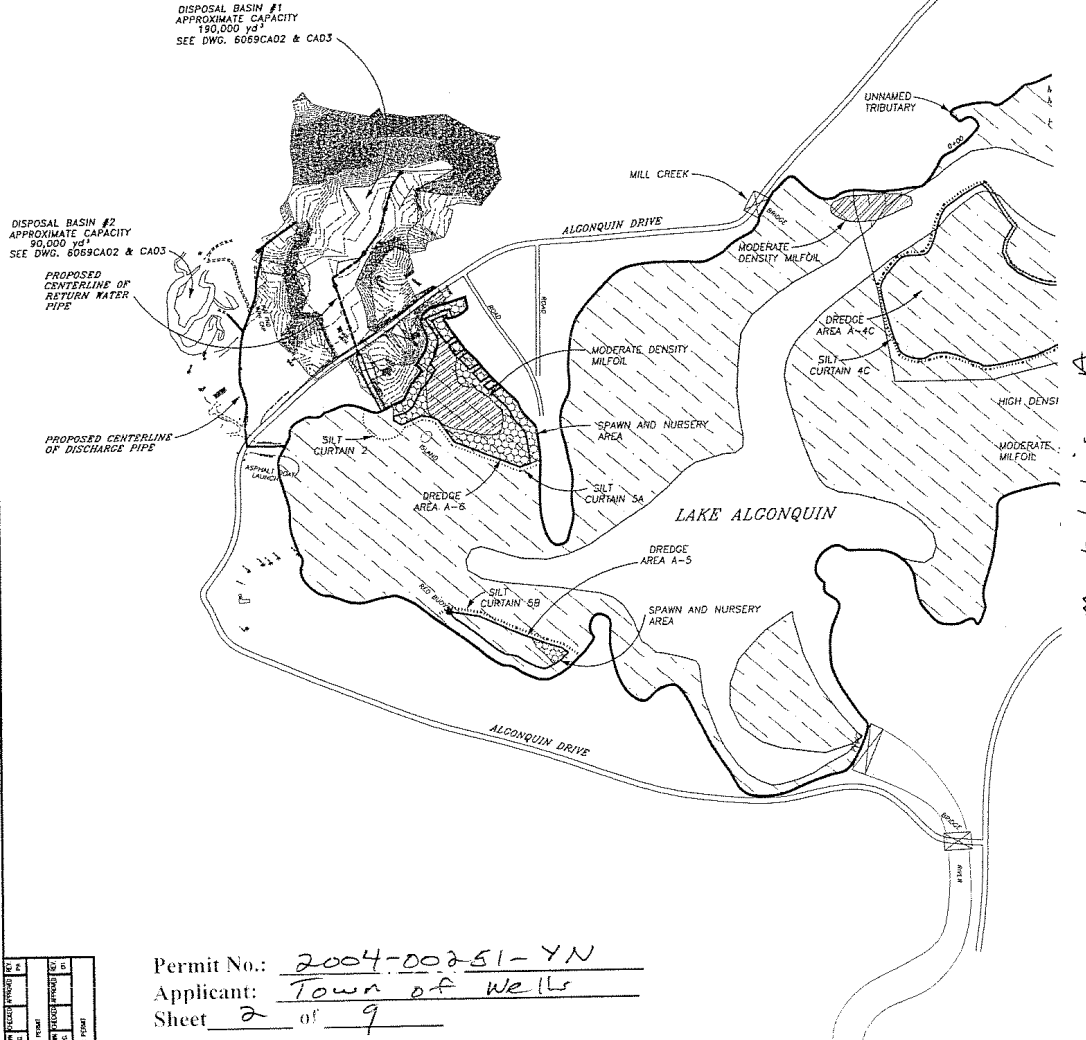


Figure W-2. Lake Algonquin surrounding topography

- NOTES:
- 1) REFERENCE TO MAP FOR TOWN OF WELLS DOWNSINK SITE DATED APRIL 8, 2002 BY LAUGHT ENGINEERS (PROJECT NO. 2002008, DRAWING NO. 37-10).
 - 2) REFERENCE TO TOPOGRAPHIC MAP SHOWING LAKES NEAR SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LAKE ALGONQUIN DATED JUNE 11, 2002 BY T.G. MILLER, P.E.
 - 3) HORIZONTAL DATUM BASED ON SURVEIL POSITIONING OBSERVATIONS RECORDED AT LAKE ALGONQUIN AT THE TIME OF THIS SURVEY. VERTICAL DATUM BASED ON U.S.C.S. BENCHMARK FOR LOCATED AT THE NORTH WEST CORNER OF THE NORTHERLY BRIDGE. CONTOUR INTERVAL IS ONE FOOT.
 - 4) ALL UTILITIES SHOWN HEREON ARE APPROXIMATE LOCATION ONLY. VERIFY IN FIELD PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.

LEGEND

- LAKE SHORE DOTTED FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH
- LAKE SHORE AS LOCATED AT TIME OF THIS SURVEY

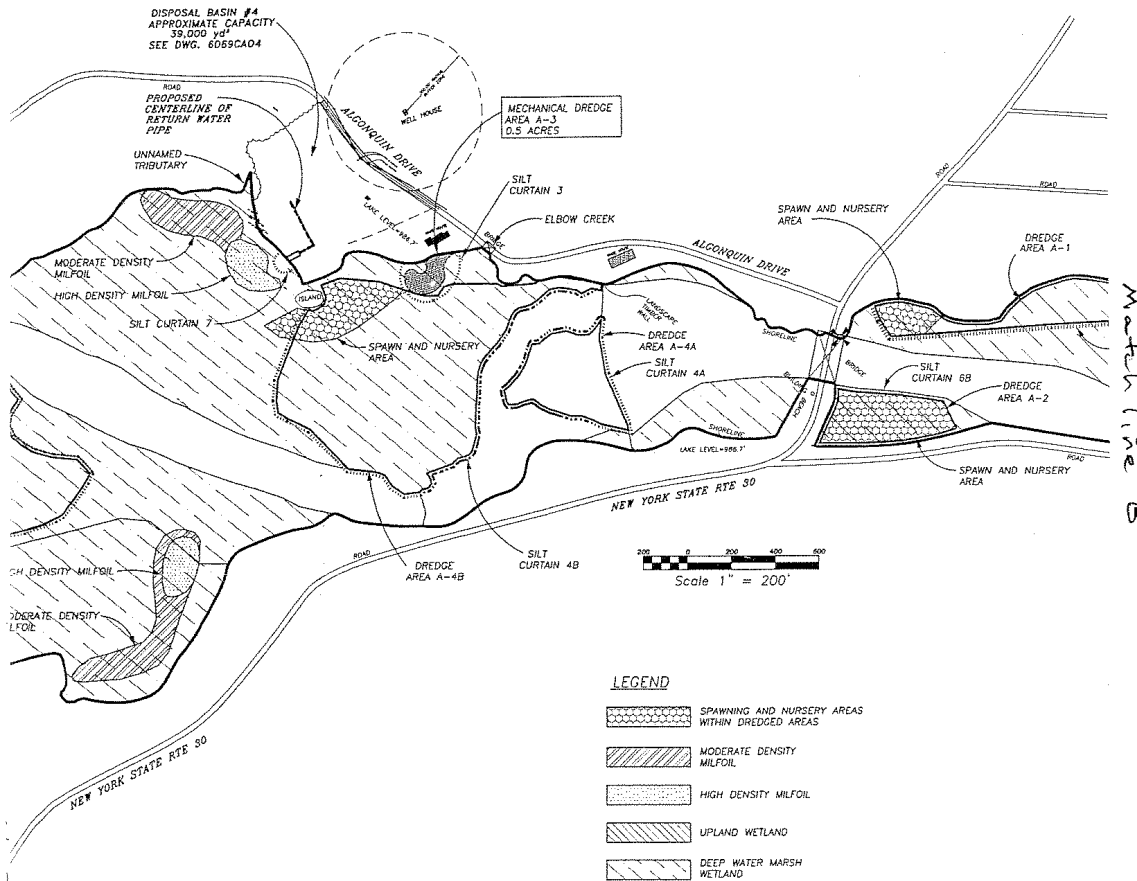


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01/01/04	LA	10

Permit No.: 2004-00251-YN
 Applicant: Town of Wells
 Sheet 2 of 9

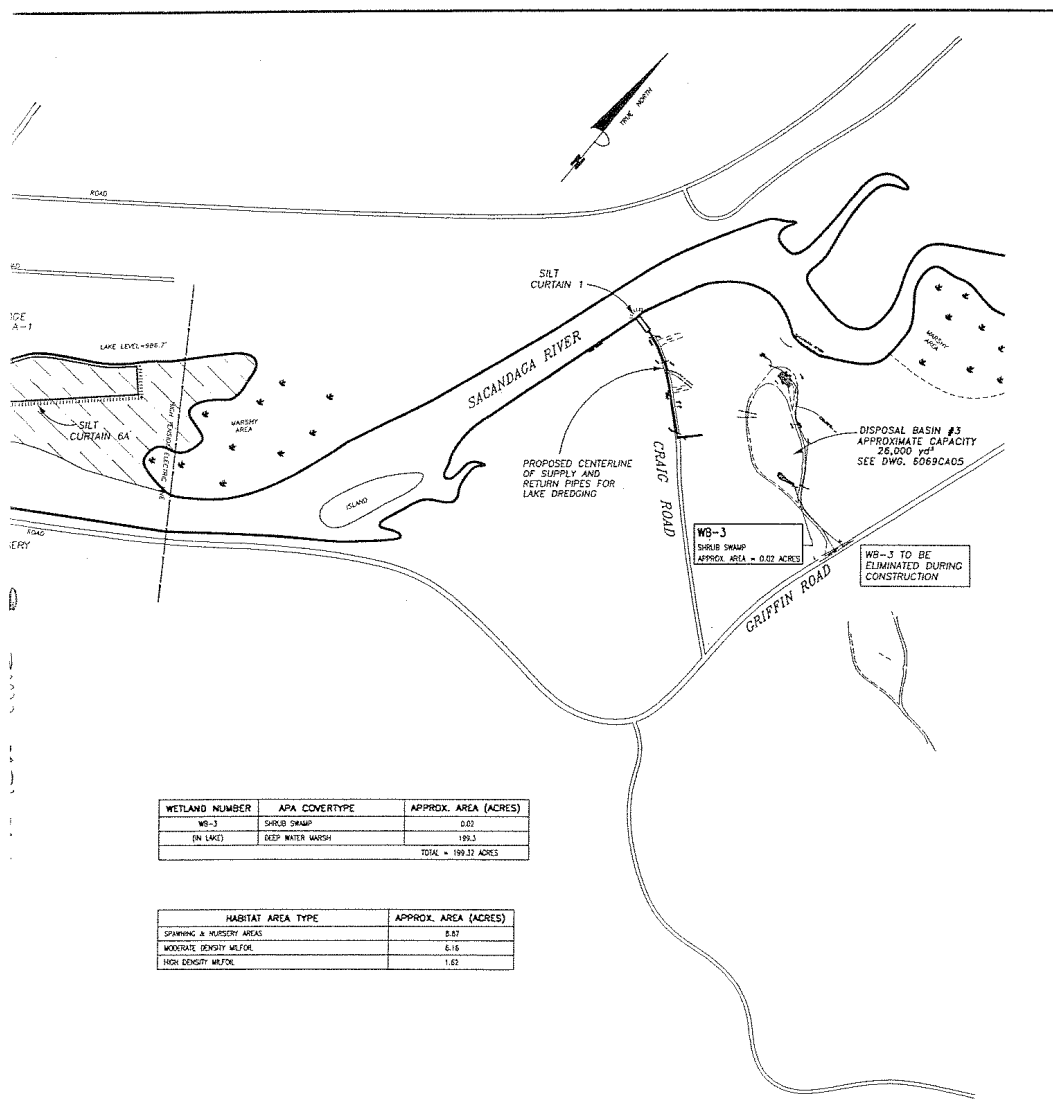
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Permit No.: 2004-00251-YN
Applicant: Town of Wall
Sheet 3 of 9

6069CA12 SH 2



WETLAND NUMBER	APA COVERTYPE	APPROX. AREA (ACRES)
WB-3	SHRUB SWAMP	0.02
(IN LAKE)	DEEP WATER WATSH	199.3
		TOTAL = 199.32 ACRES

HABITAT AREA TYPE	APPROX. AREA (ACRES)
SPAWNING & NURSERY AREAS	8.87
MODERATE DENSITY WETFOE	6.16
HIGH DENSITY WETFOE	1.82

Permit No.: 2004-00251-XN
 Applicant: Town of Wells
 Sheet 4 of 9

TOWN OF WELLS, NEW YORK C/A WETLAND AREAS HABITAT FEATURES IEDC International Engineering & Design Corporation		TOWN OF WELLS LAKE ALGONDQUIN DREDGING	
		DATE: 6/22/04	DATE: 6/22/04
SCALE: AS NOTED		DATE: 6/22/04	
SHEET: 4 OF 9		DRAWING NO: 6069CA12	
		REV: 01	

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6069CA12 SH-3

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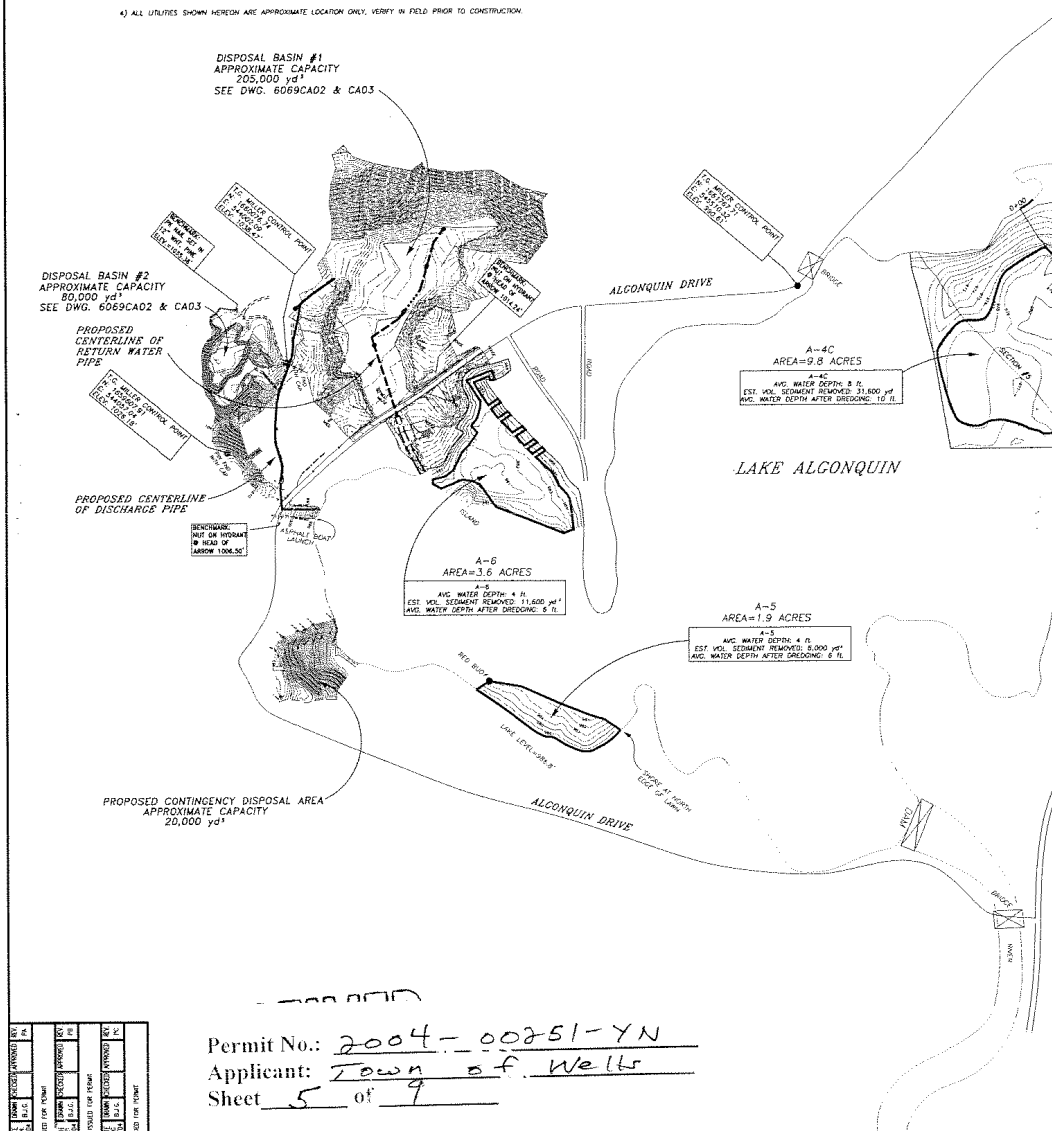
2) REFERENCE TO TOPOGRAHIC MAP SHOWING LANDS NEAR SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LAKE ALGONQUIN DATED JUNE 11, 1993 BY T.C. MILLER, P.C.

3) HORIZONTAL DATUM BASED ON GLOBAL POSITIONING OPERATIONS RECORDED AT LAKE ALGONQUIN AT THE TIME OF THIS SURVEY. VERTICAL DATUM BASED ON U.S.C. RESEARCHMARK PGB LOCATED AT THE NORTH WEST CORNER OF THE NORTHERLY BRIDGE. CONTOUR INTERVAL IS ONE FOOT.

4) ALL UTILITIES SHOWN HEREIN ARE APPROXIMATE LOCATION ONLY. VERIFY IN FIELD PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.

LAKE SHORE DIGITIZED FROM
AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH

LAKE SHORE AS LOCATED AT
TIME OF THIS SURVEY



DATE	TEAM	SCORED	APPROVED	REV.
09/07/04	B.C.			PA

ISSUED FOR PERMIT

DATE	TEAM	SCORED	APPROVED	REV.
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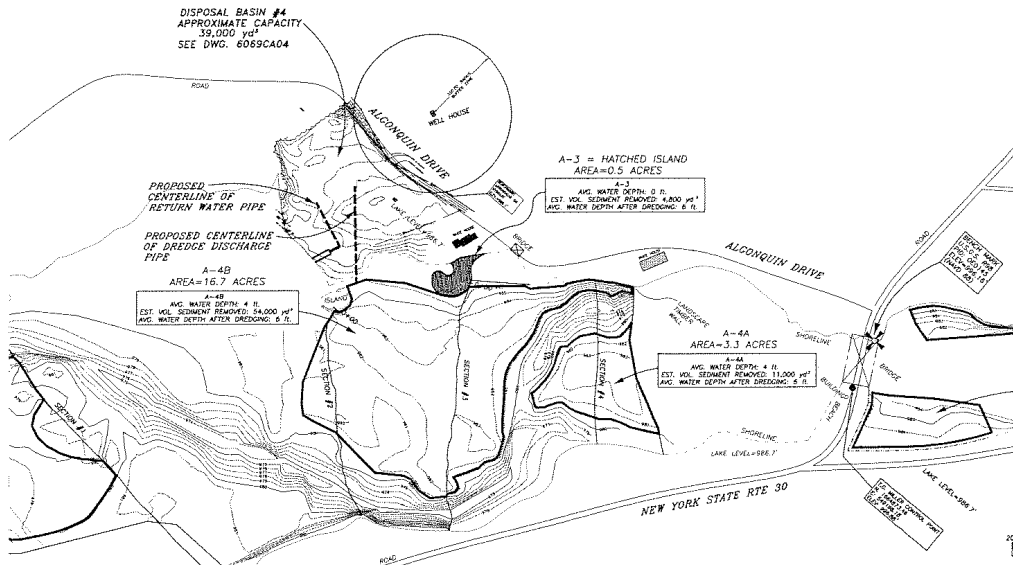
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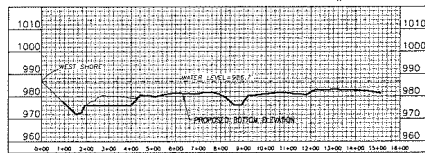
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Permit No.: 2004-00251-YN
Applicant: Town of Wells
Sheet 5 of 9

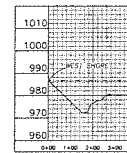
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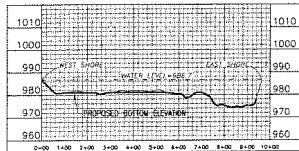
PROPOSED LAKE BOTTOM SECTION #1



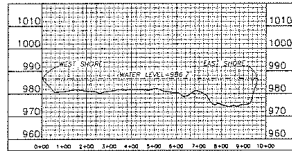
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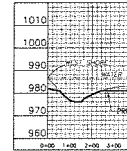
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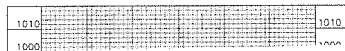
EXISTING LAKE BOTTOM SECTION #2



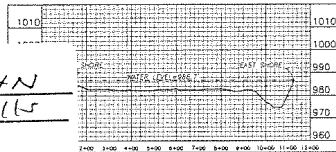
PROPOSED LAKE



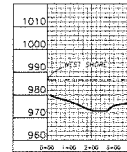
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EXISTING LAKE BOTTOM SECTION #3

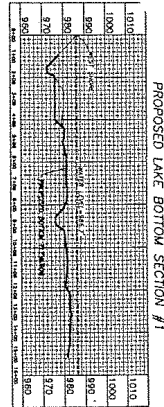


PROPOSED LAKE

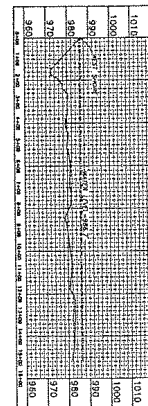


Permit No.: 2004-00251-YN
 Applicant: Town of Wall
 Sheet 6 of 9

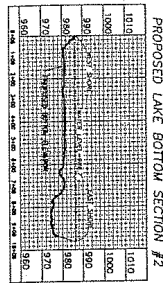
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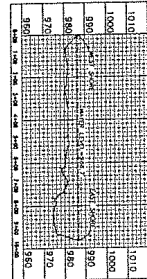
PROPOSED LAKE BOTTOM SECTION #1



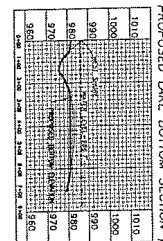
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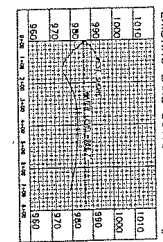
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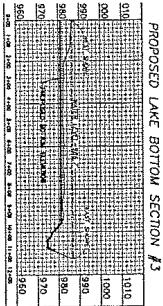
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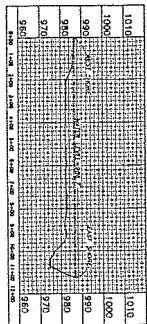
PROPOSED LAKE BOTTOM SECTION #4



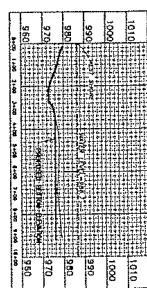
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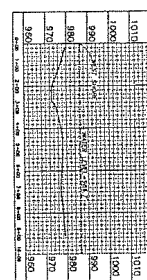
PROPOSED LAKE BOTTOM SECTION #3



EXISTING LAKE BOTTOM SECTION #3

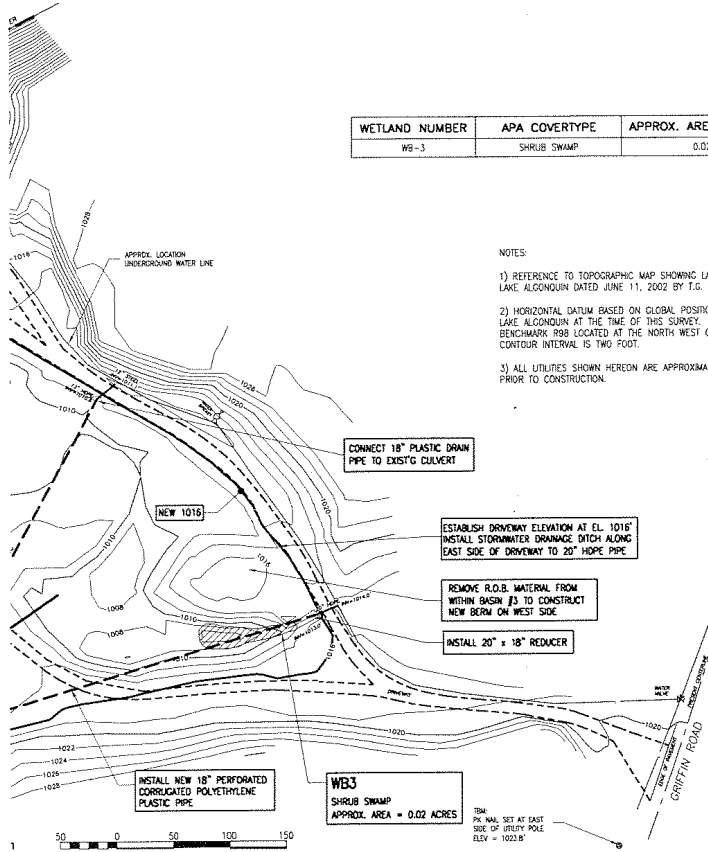


PROPOSED LAKE BOTTOM SECTION #5



EXISTING LAKE BOTTOM SECTION #5

Permit No.: 2004-00251-YN
 Applicant: Town of Wells
 Sheet 7 of 9



WETLAND NUMBER	APA COVERTYPE	APPROX. AREA (ACRES)
WB-3	SHRUB SWAMP	0.02

NOTES:

- 1) REFERENCE TO TOPOGRAPHIC MAP SHOWING LANDS NEAR SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LAKE ALGONQUIN DATED JUNE 11, 2002 BY T.G. MILLER, P.C.
- 2) HORIZONTAL DATUM BASED ON GLOBAL POSITIONING OBSERVATIONS RECORDED AT LAKE ALGONQUIN AT THE TIME OF THIS SURVEY. VERTICAL DATUM BASED ON U.S.G.S BENCHMARK 1988 LOCATED AT THE NORTH WEST CORNER OF THE NORTHERLY BRIDGE. CONTOUR INTERVAL IS TWO FEET.
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Permit No.: 2004-00251-YN
 Applicant: Town of Wells
 Sheet 9 of 9

NOTE:

IT IS A VIOLATION OF LAW FOR ANY PERSON UNLESS ACTING UNDER THE DIRECTION OF A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER TO ALTER ANY ITEM ON THIS DOCUMENT IN ANY WAY. ANY LICENSEE WHO ALTERS THIS DOCUMENT IS REQUIRED BY LAW TO AFFIX HIS/HER SEAL AND THE NOTATION "ALTERED BY", FOLLOWED BY HIS/HER SIGNATURE AND SPECIFY DESCRIPTION OF THE ALTERATION TO THE DOCUMENT.

TOWN OF WELLS, NEW YORK		TOWN OF WELLS LAKE ALGONQUIN DREDGING	
DESIGN	CHECKED	DATE	AUG. 04
SCALE	NTS	IN REFERENCE TO "D" SIZE DWG. (36"x48")	
SHEET	1 OF 1	DRAWING NO.	6069CA11
PROJECT	PA		

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